

We claim:

1. In combination with a smart card, a smart card module for biometric sensing installed in the smart card, the smart card module comprising:

at least one sensor chip functioning as a sensor and having an active surface; and

a support selected from the group consisting of board-shaped supports and foil-shaped supports, said support having electrically conductive regions connected to said sensor chip and to electrical connections of the smart card, said support having at least one opening formed therein, said sensor chip mounted on said support such that said active surface of said sensor chip is directed toward said support and situated in a region of said opening so that said active surface can be accessed through said opening.

2. The smart card module according to claim 1, wherein said opening is one of a plurality of openings formed in said support, and said sensor chip is subdivided into a plurality of individual sensor segments which are each situated in a region of one of said openings in said support.

3. The smart card module according to claim 1, wherein said support has end regions, and including a flexible adhesive

4. The smart card module according to claim 1, wherein at least some of said electrically conductive regions disposed between the electrical connections of the smart card and said sensor chip contain conductor tracks routed in a meander shape.

a smart card body;

a smart card module mounted on said smart card body, said smart card module including:

a support selected from the group consisting of board-shaped supports and foil-shaped supports, said support having electrically conductive regions connected to said sensor chip and to said electrical connections, said support having at least one opening formed therein, and

said sensor chip mounted on said support such that said active surface of said sensor chip is directed toward said support and situated in a region of said opening so that said active surface can be accessed through said opening in said support.

6. The smart card according to claim 5, wherein said opening is one of a plurality of openings formed in said support, and said sensor chip is subdivided into a plurality of individual sensor segments which are each situated in a region of one of said openings in said support.

7. The smart card module according to claim 5, wherein said support has end regions, and including a flexible adhesive disposed at said end regions for mounting said smart card module to said smart card body.

8. The smart card module according to claim 5, wherein at least some of said electrically conductive regions disposed between said electrical connections and said sensor chip contain conductor tracks routed in a meander shape.